

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KATHMA 04629 090439Z

21 12

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 DRC-01 SR-02 ORM-03 SCA-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19

AID-20 TRSE-00 OMB-01 DPW-01 (ISO) W

----- 075279

R 090305Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6752

INFO AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KATHMANDU 4629

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAG DC SREF: PFOR, PK, BG, NP

SUBJECT: RELIEF ASSISTANCE TO STRANDED BIHARIS

REF: KATHMANDU 4599

1. ACTING UNDP RESREP SMITH CALLED DCM NOVEMBER 8 TO INFORM HIM OF URGENT REQUEST HIS OFFICE HAD RECEIVED FOR RELIEF ASSISTANCE TO BIHARI REFUGEES STRANDED IN NEPAL. ACCORDING TO SMITH, GROUP OF BIHARIS ALLEGEDLY REPRESENTING 5,000 REFUGEES IN NEPAL CALLED AT HIS OFFICE NOVEMBER 8 TO REQUEST CLOTHING, BLANKETS, MEDICAL SUPPLIES AND FOOD. SMITH INDICATED PAKISTANI EMBASSY IN NEPAL HAD CONFIRMED INDEPENDENTLY URGENT NEED FOR CLOTHING AND BLANKETS. IN RESPONSE TO THIS REQUEST, UNDP OFFICE HAS MADE ARRANGEMENTS FOR NEPALI RED CROSS TO PROVIDE SOME 200 BLANKETS AND LIMITED MEDICAL SUPPLIES TO REFUGEES. IN ADDITION, HE HAS REQUESTED UNHCR TO SEND REPRESENTATIVE TO KATHMANDU TO MAKE ON-THE-SPOT SURVEY OF REFUGEES' NEEDS. SMITH'S PURPOSE IN

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PAGE 02 KATHMA 04629 090439Z

CALLING EMBASSY WAS TO ASK WHETHER, IN VIEW PUBLIC USG COMMITMENT

TO BANGLADESH REPATRIATION EFFORTS, IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE FOR USG
TO MAKE SOME CONTRIBUTION TOWARD THIS PARTICULAR RELIEF NEED.

2. EMBASSY IS UNABLE TO CONFIRM AT THIS TIME THAT THERE ARE AS
MANY AS 5,000 BIHARIS STRANDED IN NEPAL. AS INDICATED REFTTEL A,
WE UNDERSTAND THAT PAKISTANI EMBASSY CONTINUES TO PROCESS BIHARIS
REGISTERED PRIOR AUGUST 28, BUT HAS NO AUTHORIZATION TO REPATRIATE
APPROXIMATELY 2500 BIHARIS WHO ARRIVED AFTER THAT DATE. IT
SEEMS PROBABLE TO US THAT THIS LATTER GROUP WILL BE STRANDED
IN NEPAL FOR MUCH OF WINTER AND AT LEAST UNTIL BANGLADESH/
PAKISTAN DIRECT REPATRIATION EFFORTS ARE COMPLETE. WE BELIEVE
WE SHOULD AWAIT SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS FROM UNHCR BEFORE MAKING
FIRM COMMITMENT. HOWEVER, IF DEPARTMENT CONCURS, WE WOULD LIKE
TO INDICATE TO UNDP OFFICE HERE OUR WILLINGNESS TO MAKE LIMITED
CONTRIBUTION SHOULD UNHCR CONFIRM URGENCY AND NATURE OF REFUGEES'
NEEDS.
CARGO

NOTE BY OC/T: REFERENCE BELIEVED INCORRECT. WILL SERVICE UPON REQUEST.

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Review Event:
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